



# The Greater Gainesville Dog Fanciers' Association, Inc.

November 2021

Newsletter for Dog Lovers

**G.G.D.F.A.**  
**P.O. Box 358332**  
**Gainesville, Florida**  
**32635-8332**  
[www.ggdffa.org](http://www.ggdffa.org)

General Meeting Dates:  
2nd Tuesday each month  
PINE GROVE Baptist Church  
4200 NW 39th Ave  
7:30 pm Gainesville, FL

Board Meeting Dates:  
2nd Tuesday each month

#### **Club Officers**

President — Denise Gaboury  
1st VP — Pam Rice  
2nd VP — Kathy Davis  
Secretary — Liz Mignin  
Treasurer — Doris Horton

#### **Club Directors**

Claire Hedrick  
Marge Saucier  
Sue Sutton  
Jeremy White

#### **Newsletter Editor**

Claire Hedrick

#### **Membership Chair**

Kathy Davis

## HAPPY THANKSGIVING



### ***TO DO LIST***

**Donations for Basket “Raffle” at our January Show.**

**Proceeds for Paws On Parole**

**Need items or Loaded basket that will be offered at the  
Gainesville Show January 29 and 31 2021**

**Any questions please contact**

**Susan Iserhardt (352) 359-2486**

[witchingwoman@cox.net](mailto:witchingwoman@cox.net)



## News From AKC

Published [www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org)



### **WELCOME TO A BRAND-NEW WAY OF SUBMITTING YOUR DNA SAMPLES!**

We are excited to announce the creation of a customer portal, making it more convenient to submit your dog's DNA samples through AKC. Updated DNA kits will allow you to enter your own information and submit your samples directly to the lab, which will save both mailing and processing time.

AKC DNA testing is for purebred AKC registerable breeds and utilized for parentage verification and genetic identity purposes only. It does not take the place of AKC registration requirements. **AKC DNA testing DOES NOT determine breed of the dog (breed purity), genetic health, conformation, performance ability or coat color.**

#### **How to Activate Your DNA Kit:**

1. Click the "Login" button above to Login/ Register with your My AKC account (if you already have a My AKC account, you can login with those credentials. If you do not have a My AKC account, you will need to create one).
2. Enter your DNA Sample Key and PIN # found on your kit (these can be found on your DNA swab envelope and DNA swab sleeves).
3. Enter your contact information and your dog's information. Once you've verified your information and reviewed all on-screen disclaimers, you're ready to activate your kit.
4. Mail your kit once your information is entered completely

5. You will receive email confirmation from the lab once your DNA test kit has been received. **Please note: your DNA registration requirements are not met until the lab receives your sample.**

#### **How to Take a DNA Sample from Your Dog:**

1. Open the bristle brush swab package by peeling back the loose edges of the Bristle Brush Sleeve about one inch.
2. Grasp the swab's plastic handle and pull the swab out.
3. Steady your dog's head. You can hold the dog's head firmly against your body with one arm, have a friend steady the dog, or simply hold its head in your hand (with smaller breeds) while you take its sample.
4. Place the swab into the dog's mouth against the inside surface of the cheek. Firmly rotate the swab against the dog's cheek for about 10 to 20 seconds. The objective is to collect loose cheek cells. Make sure mouth is clean of any foreign matter, i.e. no food or treats within one hour.
5. Immediately reinsert the swab into the Bristle Brush Sleeve (no need to seal the sleeve). **Please make sure all barcodes match on the Bristle Brush Sleeves and the Swab Envelope.**
6. Place the Bristle Brush Sleeves in the DNA Swab Envelope and seal the envelope.
7. Place your DNA Swab Envelope inside your Return Mailing Envelope (again, **making sure all barcodes match**).
8. Add a stamp to your Return Mailing Envelope and drop it in the mail.



## Canine Stress Syndrome

Contributed by Denise Gaboury  
Published <https://thepetwiki.com/wiki/>

Canine Stress Syndrome (CSS) is a genetic disorder that, fortunately, occurs rarely. It can potentially cause a fatal response for a dog if certain triggers are present. CSS is also known as malignant hyperthermia.

Some dogs in highly stressful situations or who are over-stimulated will show symptoms such as muscle spasms and an elevated body temperature.

Other signs include increased breathing rate, increased heart rate, muscle rigidity, changes in blood pressure, bluish color of mucous membranes and skin, fluid in lungs, dehydration, inappetance, weakness, seizures, kidney failure and more. If not treated quickly, the dog can go into cardiac arrest and die.

Anesthesia is a strong trigger. Within 10 minutes of administration, carbon monoxide blood levels may be raised. Anesthesia should be discontinued immediately to prevent a fatal reaction. Inhaling drugs such as halothane, isoflurane, desflurane, can be the culprits.

Other triggers include over-exercising, excitement, apprehension, some muscle relaxants, over-stimulation, any stress, foods that contain caffeine or hops, vaccines.

Breeds who may carry the gene are Bichon Frise, Border Collie, Golden Retriever, Labrador Retriever, Greyhound, Pointer, St. Bernard, Springer Spaniel.

When symptoms are observed, due to the severity of the disease, treatment may be administered before diagnosis is made.

There are several different tests that your vet will administer to discover if your dog is suspected of having CSS. If you think your dog is at risk, your vet will test for the defective gene, particularly before performing any type of surgery.

## How to treat CSS:

While there is no treatment for CSS, it can be managed by your vet. Surgical procedures will be kept as short as possible. Certain drugs can be administered prior to surgery.

At home you can help by avoiding stressful situations. Don't over-exercise or over-stimulate your dog. Feed smaller frequent meals to keep glucose levels normal. Try natural remedies to reduce your dog's stress level.

Prognosis for CSS is fair to poor. Treatment of symptoms offers the best survival. or IVCT testing by your vet can determine if your dog has the gene.

Do not breed dogs with the defective gene,



# Why Does My Dog Lick Their Paws?

Published [www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org)

## Key Points

- Occasional paw licking is normal.
- Licking one paw may indicate a sudden injury.
- Allergies and parasites can cause itchy paws and aggressive licking.

As with other dog behaviors, there can be several reasons that lead dogs to lick or chew their paws. These include injuries; skin problems; environmental, parasite, or food allergies; and boredom or anxiety.

Occasional paw licking is normal for dogs as a part of their self-grooming process, especially when they come inside after walking on dirty or sandy ground. But if your dog frequently and intensely licks his paws, you can assume that something is wrong.

## Injuries

The first step to take, especially if the licking begins very suddenly and is focused on one paw, is to examine the paws to make certain there is not an injury such as a cut, torn nail, growth, or perhaps a stone, thorn, or ice ball stuck between the pads. Look closely at the nails, between the toes and pads, and at the tops of the feet.

Your dog may have irritated his paw by stepping on something sharp, walking on salted or hot sidewalks, being stung by a bee, or getting a blister. Some of these problems can be relieved by a simple first aid treatment, while others might require treatment by a veterinarian.

## Dermatitis

If the paw pads and feet appear normal, the licking could be due to a skin condition (dermatitis), which often is the result of bacterial problems, allergies, or food sensitivities. Your dog could develop dermatitis by being allergic to chemicals used in your yard, deicing products, or certain types of grass or weeds. Keeping a bowl of water and a towel near the door to gently clean off the paws when you come inside could help.

## Parasites

Parasite infections such as fleas or mange can cause the paws to be very itchy. Your veterinarian can recommend treatments to eliminate the parasites, which should relieve the itching.

## Food Allergies

Food allergies are known to cause itchy paws, and these types of allergies are difficult to pinpoint.

Your vet may suggest a special diet or elimination of certain ingredients in your dog's food to try to alleviate the problem.

## Pain

Finally, a dog that is experiencing pain due to arthritis or other foot or leg conditions may lick his paws. Even if the pain is somewhere else in their body, some dogs will try to deal with it by licking a front paw continuously. This requires diagnosis and treatment by a veterinarian.

## Behavioral Issues

If you and your veterinarian have ruled out all of the above problems, than your dog may be suffering from boredom or a behavioral problem such as anxiety. Again, this is difficult to diagnose, but there are some steps you can take to help. Some dogs develop compulsive behaviors, which include paw licking.

To alleviate boredom, try taking your dog for more walks, runs, or playtime with you and with other dogs to use up more mental and physical energy. Give him puzzle toys or safe chew toys to take his focus away from his paws.

If you think anxiety, such as fear of noises or separation anxiety, may be causing him to lick his paws, there are a number of ways you can attempt to relieve the anxiety, including calming treats. A good animal behaviorist can suggest a variety of options to try.



Continued next page

## Why Does My Dog Lick Their Paws? (cont)

### Secondary Infections

It's important to recognize that licking behavior can be indicative of a health problem or may become harmful to the dog. You should work with your veterinarian to determine the cause and find an appropriate solution. Don't wait too long to do this, because the moisture of constant foot licking can cause a secondary bacterial or yeast infection – causing even more itching, redness, swelling, and licking.

Meanwhile, depending on the underlying cause of the problem, the veterinarian may relieve your dog's itching by prescribing topical anti-itch sprays, steroids to reduce inflammation, antibiotics for a bacterial infection, or antifungals for yeast infections. The sooner you can address the problem and illuminate the cause, the better.

#### **AKC GoodDog Note:**

*Need some help training your dog? While you may not be able to attend in-person training classes during COVID-19, we are here to help you virtually through AKC GoodDog! Helpline. This live telephone service connects you with a professional trainer who will offer unlimited, individualized advice on everything from behavioral issues to CGC prep to getting started in dog sports.*



## Under the Table—A Thanksgiving Poem

<https://www.guideposts.org/friends-and-family/pets/>  
by Peggy FrezonPosted in Pets

*Family gathers 'round the table  
Set with turkey, yams and dressing,  
Holding hands and bowing heads  
Thanking God for every blessing.*

*Platters steaming, bowls are brimming,  
Dishes circle like a wreath.  
Though the tabletop is tempting,  
I'm drawn to something underneath.*

*At my feet I feel a tapping  
A paw that tells me someone's there.  
Perhaps he's hoping for a morsel.  
But instead, I say a prayer.*

X`x`

*Thank you God for furry paws  
That sweetly nudge and jump and run.  
Thank you for the tail that wags  
Unceasingly, never done.*

*For ears that hear me drawing near,  
For the nose so cold and wet,  
The fur so soft (unless it rains)  
That's warm and comforting to pet.*

*For the eyes that tell me how he feels,  
And the gaze I never tire of.  
The tongue that kisses sloppily.  
The faithful heart so full of love.*

*Thanksgiving is a time of year  
Acknowledgments abound.  
Appreciation multiplies  
For loved ones all around.*

*So, I'm thankful for friends and family  
And each gift God shall enable.  
And I'm thankful for my loyal dog  
Who waits underneath the table.*

*Author Unknown*



## GGDFA Board Meeting—10/12/2021

Board meeting called to order at 6:51pm. Board attendees: Liz Mignin, Claire Hedrick, Denise Gaboury, Pam Rice, Marge Saucier Liz read minutes from 9/14. - Error in board meeting attendance; Kathy Davis was absent, and Pam Rice was present. - Unanimously approved

Miscellaneous discussion - Baskets at this year's show - Donated baskets will be used as auction baskets at this year's show. - Reminder to donate baskets and contact Susan with any questions -

### Membership growth

- Club should look into different student organizations and clubs through the University of Florida to attract younger members.
- Denise mentioned creating mentorship/intern positions for different roles in club to begin passing down information and procedures.
- Fall festival booth could also advertise the club. (booth brainstorm ideas)
- Included in booth: therapy dog, prize wheel, and flyers
- In addition to fall festival, could table at Curia (open-air dog-friendly coffee shop with weekly events/popups) or PetSmart
- Discussion tabled until after the show in January.

Marge moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Pam. (Adjourned at 7:32pm.)

## General Meeting 10/12/21

Meeting called to order at 7:34pm. Nine members in attendance.

### Miscellaneous discussion

- Please send interesting dog-related articles to Claire for the monthly newsletter!
- - A general volunteer sign-up list for the show in January will be sent out soon.
- - Reaching new members - Jordan mentioned previous experience with social media and graphic design.
- - Liz will contact Jordan to discuss creating a flyer for the club.

### Interest groups

- Dan mentioned creating interest groups within the club to tailor to more specific discussions and events.
- - For example, a tracking meet-up weekly on Sundays, or a committee to target a specific event for club promotion quarter.

### New members

- - Second reading for Alaura Brown, Michelle Stagg, Elaine Tell, and Dave Wood
- - First reading for Jordan Key and Jason Johnson - They own an Australian Shepherd and a Border Collie, and they are interested in agility and obedience.

### Club brags!

- Dan just received an intermediate trick dog title on his otterhound!



*A friend is a friend and a dog is a dog. A friend will never be a dog, but a dog won't ever quit being a friend.*

Jean Paul Malfatti

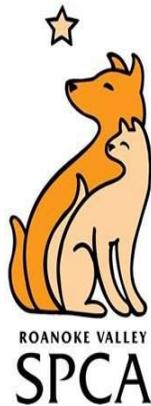
*Dogs are not our whole life, but they make our lives whole.*

Lav\_April



# What not to feed your pet on Thanksgiving

- 🐾 turkey skin, Drippings and Gravy
- 🐾 turkey twine
- 🐾 turkey bones
- 🐾 Corn on the Cob
- 🐾 Onions
- 🐾 Garlic
- 🐾 Mushrooms
- 🐾 Raisins and Grapes
- 🐾 Sage
- 🐾 Bread Dough
- 🐾 Chocolate
- 🐾 Alcohol
- 🐾 Fat trimmings and Fatty Foods



Lets make sure the whole family has a fun and safe Thanksgiving holiday, the furry and four-legged members of the family included!



## October Pet Holidays and Veterinary Awareness Days

Published [www.amcny.org/2021-pet-holidays-and-veterinary-awareness-days](http://www.amcny.org/2021-pet-holidays-and-veterinary-awareness-days)

### Month-Long Celebrations

- Adopt a Senior Pet Month
- National Pet Awareness Month
- National Senior Pet Month
- Pet Cancer Awareness Month
- Pet Diabetes Month

### Week-Long Celebrations

- November 1–7 | National Animal Shelter Appreciation Week
- November 7–13 | National Animal Shelter Appreciation Week
- November 14–20 | Antibiotics Awareness Week

### Day Celebrations

- November 1 | National Cook for Your Pets Day
- November 3 | One Health Day
- November 7 | National Canine Lymphoma Awareness Day
- November 20 | National Adoption Day
- November 25 | Thanksgiving
- November 25 | National Dog Show





GGDFA Newsletter  
 c/o Claire Hedrick  
 514 NW 127th Street  
 Newberry, FL 32669

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



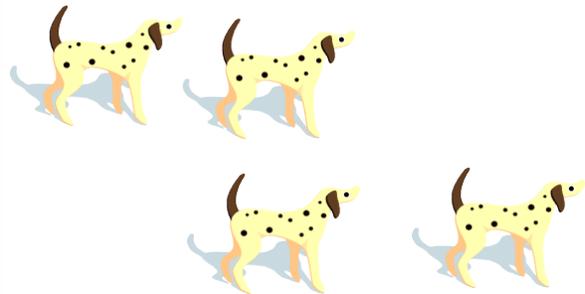
**Secretary’s Notice of GGDFA Meetings**

The next General Meeting of the GGDFA club will be **Tuesday, 11/ 09 —7:30**

Next Board Meeting is Tuesday 11/09 —6:45

September WILL **NOT** HAVE A ZOOM MEETING set up.  
 Normal: Church Location:

PINE GROVE Baptist Church  
 4200 NW 39th Ave, Gainesville, FL



**Training Classes Contact:**

Denise Gaboury 316-4543

**LOCATION:**

OAK HALL SCHOOL - Covered and lighted  
 Tower Road , Gainesville

*Obedience/Rally classes— THURSDAYS 6:00 pm*  
*Conformation classes—Call to make arrangements*

**Training Classes Contact:**

Jeremy White 445-8873

**LOCATION:**

PINE GROVE Baptist Church  
 4200 NW 39th Ave  
 Gainesville, FL

*Conformation Classes — SATURDAYS 9:30am*  
 Goal is twice a month—call to make arrangements